



OSLER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

"Learning, Growing.....Together"

November 27, 2015

Principal: Ms. Audrey Kampen
Vice-Principal: Mr. Glenn Key

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www.spiritsd.ca/osler

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, Nov. 30

- Wonderland Musical at Warman High School—Kindergarten—Gr. 9

Thursday, Dec. 10

- Grade 4-6 Choir—Christmas Carol Program (am) & Bowling (pm)

Friday, Dec. 11

- Christmas Banquet - Osler Community Church—12:00 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 14

- Grade 3 Field Trip

Thursday, Dec. 17

- Christmas Programs—10:00 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.

December 19—January 3

- Christmas Break

Monday, January 4

- Classes Resume

Thursday, January 7

- Project Faceoff Drug Presentation (Gr. 6-9)

Dear Parents,

Thank you to our students and staff for a wonderful Remembrance Day program. It was an opportunity to learn about the decorated Saskatchewan war hero, Billy the Goat; it was an opportunity to remember those who have served our country in conflict and wars around the globe and it was an opportunity to be grateful for the wonderful community and country in which we live and work. I appreciate that so many parents and community members join us for the special program.

On Friday, November 13th Ms. Bodnar's Grade 4 class lead us in an assembly about gratitude. As you see in our newsletter, being grateful is one of the High 5's we believe is very important for our students to practice. Some of the wonderful quotes the students used to teach others about gratitude included: "Gratitude is like a boomerang that always comes back." and "Never let the things you want make you forget the things you have!" Teachers have asked students what it looks like and what it sounds like to be grateful. Students identified actions such as saying "Thank you", being satisfied with your partner; saying "You're Welcome", not asking for seconds, cleaning up after yourself; not touching art displays and posters in the hallways and thanking intramurals supervisors are all ways that students express their gratitude. Of course any assembly which Ms. Bodnar touches would be incomplete without great music and a wonderful powerpoint which reminded us of all the things for which we can be grateful at Osler School.

If you have any compliments, questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher, Mr. Key or myself. Looking forward to seeing you at the Christmas program on December 17th.

Yours in education,
Audrey Kampen

Check out our School Website for updates, reminders and announcements.

Sign up to receive daily email notifications of news!

Keep up to date on our team practices, games and competitions.

<http://blogs.spiritsd.ca/oslerschool/>



Osler School High 5's

- ✎ Be Respectful
- ✎ Be Responsible
- ✎ Be Safe
- ✎ Be Grateful
- ✎ Be Open to Learn and Grow



Osler School Christmas Program

Students and staff are excited to present this year's Christmas program on **Thursday, December 17th**.

Town of Osler presentations will take place at 6:45 p.m. with the program beginning at 7:00 p.m. Doors will open to the public at 6:15 p.m..

Students are asked to arrive between 6:15 and 6:30.



We will also have a morning performance on **Thursday, December 17th**. It will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Those who are able to attend in the morning are encouraged to do so. It helps alleviate overcrowding in the evening.

Osler School's
Grade 4 to 6 Choir
is proud to present
a morning of
Christmas Carols



We are excited to spread some Christmas cheer throughout our community of Osler. Please join us at the *Osler Mennonite Church* on **Thursday, December 10th** at 9:45 a.m.
Everyone is welcome!

Online ordering is **NOW AVAILABLE!**

To order a yearbook online visit the Lifetouch website at ybpay.lifetouch.com.

The yearbook code for the **Osler School 2015–2016 Yearbook** is **10607816**.

If paying by cheque, please make payable to Osler School and return the yearbook form with enclosed money to your child's teacher before December 10, 2015.

Each yearbook costs \$25.00.

Thank you for supporting our school!

(We apologize for any inconvenience the delay in online ordering may have caused some families.)

Winter!!!

- * We use -27 degrees Celsius (with wind chill factor) as a guideline for whether to send students outside for recess. Please help your children dress appropriately so they can be comfortable outside and enjoy their recess/noon breaks.



- * The school's doors open at 8:30 a.m. Students should **NOT** arrive at school before then as we have no teachers available for supervision. Students will not be allowed to enter the building, even if it is very cold outside.

- * Please write names inside of students' winter boots, jackets, mitts, etc.

Christmas Food Drive

As an annual event, our Grade 9 class canvasses the community for non-perishable food items to be distributed through local churches to families in need.

We will be collecting on **Thursday, December 10** from 9:30—10:30 a.m. If you will not be home, feel free to leave your contribution on your front step or drop it by the school.



You may also bring your donations when you come to our Christmas program on the 17th.

Whooping Cough

This past week, we sent home information regarding whooping cough. There is one confirmed case of whooping cough in our school. Please refer to the letter to know what steps to take if your child is experiencing or develops any of the symptoms of whooping cough. If you did not receive a copy of the letter, either through email or a paper copy sent home with our division 1 students, please contact the school and we will send home another copy.



If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Population and Public Health at 306-655-4612, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Win a trip and support your school!



The new **Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation** is holding a **Trip a Month Raffle** to raise funds to support innovative programming in Prairie Spirit schools.

For every \$100 ticket sold through your school, the school will receive \$25 to support innovative student learning initiatives.

Details are as follows:

- There will be 12 draws for a \$2200 travel voucher (*winners can choose their own destination!*)
- EVERY ticket is in for EVERY draw (*12 chances to win!*)
- Only 1000 tickets will be sold (*great odds!*)
- Draw date January 27, 2016
- Trip details will be finalized with the exclusive sponsor – *Gateway Travel* in Martensville

To purchase a ticket with cash or by cheque, please contact the school office or contact the Foundation at psfoundation@spiritsd.ca or 306-683-2881.

For more information and Rules of Play, please go to:
www.prairiespiritschoolsfoundation.ca

Prairie Spirit Schools **FOUNDATION**

potential, the Prairie Spirit Schools Foundation provides donation and investment opportunities for projects and partnerships which would not otherwise be possible and which will enrich learning opportunities for our students.

With its mandate to support innovation in public education by funding a range of experiences that help students realize their

Merry Christmas

From the Staff at Osler School



Family Health Information

- ◆ [Eat Better Eat Together](#)
- ◆ [Health Promoting Schools](#)
- ◆ [Common Cold](#)
- ◆ [Fifth Disease](#)

Find more family health info at:
www.saskatoonhealthregion.ca
(Search: school newsletter inserts)

HEALTHY STUDENTS = BETTER LEARNERS



Population and Public Health

Osler School Community Council (SCC) Update

Request to Review the Grade 6 Bible Knowledge Class

The Osler SCC recently met to discuss concerns brought to the SCC regarding communication and delivery of the Bible Knowledge class, a locally determined optional class offered to students in Grade 6. The Bible Knowledge class is a look at the Bible as a text, and is offered week during the last half hour of the day, 30 times throughout the year. Parents currently have the choice of letting their Grade 6 teacher know if they do not wish their child to participate.

After hearing the concerns of parents in our school community, the SCC has moved to make the following changes to how the school communicates with parents regarding the Bible Knowledge class. The school will:

- provide a description of the class in the parent handbook each year;
- send home an information letter at the end of the school year to all Grade 5 families, letting them know of the upcoming Bible Knowledge class and giving them the time to consider if this is a class in which they would like their student(s) to participate and
- send a more detailed outline to parents at the beginning of Grade 6 along with a permission note for students to take the class if their parents so choose.

Additionally, based on the number of families that decide to participate next fall, the SCC will consider whether or not to request a review by the school division regarding offering a Bible Knowledge class for Grade 6.

The SCC feels these changes are positive ones that take into account the changing needs of our families and will benefit our entire school community.

Cybersafety Presentation for Parents and Community



Young people's lives are increasingly intertwined with online activities. Parents and guardians often have questions about their children's online behaviour and safety but are unsure of what's important to monitor or where to get information. The WCMS and Osler SCCs cordially invite parents, guardians, and other community members to an informational presentation on Cybersafety hosted by retired Sgt. Brian Trainor. Sgt. Trainor is a nationally recognized and much sought after presenter on 'cyber' topics and has presented to 1000s of students and adults across North America. Admission is sponsored by the WCMS and Osler SCCs.

The presentation will take place **Wednesday, February 3, 7:00-8:30pm** at the Warman Community Theatre (located on the second level of Warman Community Middle School). Parking available in the Legends Centre – Access the theatre via the front entry to the Legends Centre.



Mark your calendars. We hope to see you there.

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

December 2015

Sponsored by your School Community Council



SHORT NOTES

My kind of town

When you travel to a different town or state, encourage your youngster to compare and contrast it with your area. She might notice that a suburb has shorter buildings and more open space than the city she's from. Or if you live near mountains, she may be surprised by how flat a plain is.

Volunteer for class parties

This time of year, your youngster's teacher may need help with a class party. You could volunteer to coordinate food and activities or to pitch in on party day. Or you might offer to contribute craft supplies or a nutritious treat (fruit kebab, baggies of popcorn and raisins). The teacher will appreciate your involvement—and so will your child!

Shared space

Arguments over the bathroom can throw a wrench in your youngsters' morning routines. Have them work together to come up with a schedule. They should decide who will go first on which days and how long they can spend getting ready in the bathroom. Creating the routine themselves will make them more apt to stick with it.

Worth quoting

"At first, dreams seem impossible, then improbable, and eventually inevitable." *Christopher Reeve*

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What do you call a snowman in summer?

A: A puddle.



Raise a generous child

Whether your child is making a gift for a grandparent or putting together a care package, he is learning to give to others. Use these suggestions to nurture his generosity.

The gift of time

Being generous doesn't have to cost money. Encourage your youngster to take a little extra time to do things for others. For example, he could handle a chore for a sibling who has a big test the next day. Or he might organize and lead games for younger cousins at a family gathering.

A "wish list" for others

Does your child list gifts he hopes to receive? Let him make a list for others, too. He could write down presents he would like to make or buy for relatives and friends. Have him carefully consider what each person might want ("Grandma loves to hear me play piano, so I'll make her a video of me playing her favorite songs"). This can help him discover how good it feels to give.



My special cause

Your youngster may feel more eager to give to a cause that is personally meaningful to him. For instance, if you have a relative in the military, he could help you put together care packages for troops. Or if he loves animals, he might gather towels and blankets and donate them to a shelter.

Tip: Help your child see himself as a giving person by pointing out his generosity. ("It was generous of you to offer your brother your last slice of pizza.")♥

A lifelong learner

Learning isn't just something that happens in school—show your youngster it's a practice she'll do all her life. Consider these ideas:

- Tell your child about things you're learning and ways you're educating yourself. For example, if your office is switching to a new accounting system, talk about training sessions you attended and how they helped you do your job.
- Encourage self-help. If your family wants to try camping for the first time, work together to investigate where to camp, the gear you'll need, and the best time to go. You might consult workers at an outdoors store, read books about camping, or search online for campgrounds.♥



Write to persuade, write to explain

Writing serves various purposes. Here are two important reasons your youngster will write in school, along with ways she can practice at home.

Persuade. Encourage your child to think through both sides of a topic before she writes by staging a pretend debate with two dolls or action figures. She could pick a topic, like whether kids need more recess, and speak for each "person." Then, she should decide which side she agrees with and write an argument from that point of view.



She'll see the importance of being precise when explaining something in writing. After you guess what you're acting out, write a set of instructions for her.♥

Explain. Let your youngster think of a task (say, washing your hair). Without telling you what it is, she should write instructions for you to act out. ("Turn a bottle upside down. Hold one hand under the bottle...") As you go through the motions, she may realize she left out a step and needs to edit her directions.

Q & A

Drugs: Start a conversation

Q: How should I talk to my second-grade son about drugs?

A: Try starting with what your child already knows. Ask him what he has heard about drugs, and talk about those facts or myths.

If he says all drugs are bad, remind him that when he's sick, you or his doctor may give him drugs to help him get well. Then, talk about the dangers of illegal drugs. Explain that they may damage the brain or heart, cause people to make poor decisions, and be addictive (hard to stop taking). And even legal drugs can hurt him if taken incorrectly or not prescribed for him.

Finally, encourage your youngster to tell you in the future what he's hearing about drugs. And keep the conversation going by bringing up the subject from time to time.♥



ACTIVITY CORNER

Getting to know you

December is when many families get together with far-flung relatives. Encourage cooperation and learn more about each other with these two activities.

Silent lineup

Family members must work together in this cooperative game. Have your child get one index card per person and number them (say, 1–8 for 8 people). Turn the cards upside down, mix them up, and give one to each player. Tape the card you're dealt to another person's back. Then, players try to get in numerical order without speaking. Or write letters on the cards and work together to get into alphabetical order or to spell a word.

Name the criteria

Here's a fun way to see what family members have in common. Let one person name a category, such as "is a morning person" or "likes ketchup on eggs." Then, lay a jump rope on the floor. Everyone who meets the criterion sits on one side of the line, and those who don't sit on the other. Have another player pick a new category, and rearrange yourselves.♥



Become more independent

As your child gets older, she'll be expected to do more for herself. Help her prepare with these strategies.

● **Assume she can.** There's a better chance that your youngster will be able to accomplish a task on her own if she sees that you expect her to. Example: "I'll rinse the plates while you load the dishwasher." Then, focus on rinsing, and leave her to figure out her own way of loading the dishes.

● Ask, "What do you think?"

Including your child in family decisions prepares her for independent decision making. You might seek her opinion on what to make for dinner or where to hang a picture, for instance.

● **Let her start.** If she asks you to put her hair in a bun, encourage her to try the first steps by herself. Tell her you're there to help finish the job if she gets stuck.♥



OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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